

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; APRIL 20, 2009; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 20, 2009, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips and Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman and Willard E. Wilson. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Micheal DeWitt, The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Pastor Byrd gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Master Jaquan Fox.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

MS. ALICE BEHLIN, ADULT LITERACY EDUCATION:

Ms. Behlin came before council and stated that due to the renovations at the Technical College of the Lowcountry – Mungin Center, they would no longer be housed in the building. She stated that they have been housed in that facility since 1985. Ms. Behlin stated that they are a non-profit organization and have no funds for relocation. She stated that The Adult Literacy Education recently had an accreditation review and received outstanding reviews. Ms. Behlin along with Ms. Hazel Smith who was present requested that the council provide a space and the funding for such space to Adult Literacy. Chairman Gray asked Ms. Behlin to get with the Administrator and provide her with the information as to what is needed as far as space needed, etc.

MR. J. C. CLIFTON, ANIMAL SHELTER:

Mr. Clifton shared with council the services provided by the Animal Shelter. Mr. Clifton also stated that they were progressing with the building of the Kennels. He stated that he needed an

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additional \$10,000 to complete the project. He shared that they were fundraising to raise part of the needed funds but probably would need assistance with the rest.

MR. LEROY WOMBLE, LOWCOUNTRY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY:

Mr. Womble thanked council for what they have done for the agency but asked that the upcoming allocation be increased to \$5,000. He stated that they are receiving many requests for utility assistance, etc. Council Member Parker told Mr. Womble that she may be able to assist with the wheelchair ramps through a summer program. She asked that he provide her with his contact information, and she will provide him with the names of person to contact.

DR. TOM LIETZEL, PRESIDENT, AND MR. CLYDE HINCHER, FINANCE DIRECTOR, TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY (TCL):

Dr. Lietzel shared with council his vision of TCL and listed some of the triumphs such as increased enrollment of 24%, etc.

Dr. Lietzel also addressed the issue brought up by Ms. Behlin about Adult Literacy being moved from the Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL). Dr. Lietzel stated that he had spoken to Mrs. Hazel Smith on two occasions assuring her that TCL will relocate the program in the building after the renovations are completed. He stated that he received a report showing the sterling job that Mrs. Smith is doing with Adult Literacy.

MS. BETH McNEER, DIRECTOR, ALLENDALE-HAMPTON-JASPER REGIONAL LIBRARY:

Ms. McNeer came before council and shared her vision of what she would like to see for the AHJ Regional Library.

HONORABLE CAROLYN WILLIAMS, CHIEF MAGISTRATE, HAMPTON COUNTY:

Judge Williams came before council to request that the part-time Bonding Clerk's position be changed to a full-time position. She stated that the new system requires that the paperwork has to be put in the system before a bond hearing can be held. She stated that bond hearings are held at 9:00 a. m. and 4:00 p. m. She stated that the clerk will have to input the information in the system before the bond hearing can be held, and if she is part-time, the time that she will be leaving is the time that she would have to input the information for the 4:00 bond hearing. She stated that her other clerks have specific duties that they cannot be pulled away from to assist in this task.

MS. PEACH MORRISON, LOWCOUNTRY RESORT AND TOURISM COMMISSION:

Ms. Morrison came before council and thanked council for the support and updated council on the activities that the commission has been active.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 20, 2009 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were no changes. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, adopt the agenda with the following revisions: (1) Deletion of Item #3.1, Public Hearing Regarding Ordinance #2009-003, Chapter 1, Administration of International Building Code, Section 112, (2) Deletion of Item

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#10.1.1, Third Reading To Ordinance #2009-003, Chapter 1, Administration of International Building Code, Section 112 and (3) Addition of Item #14.1, Personnel Matter. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APRIL 6, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Gray stated that he reviewed the minutes. He asked for a motion to adopt. **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve the minutes with the correction of a couple of "type Os". Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD GRANT COMMITMENT CERTIFICATION FOR THE REGIONAL WATER FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR SIX MUNICIPALITIES IN HAMPTON COUNTY (SENATOR CLEMENTA PINCKNEY):

Senator Pinckney was not present.

THE CITY OF HARDEEVILLE IS MAKING APPLICATION TO THE STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK FOR FUNDING TO CREATE A NEW EXIT 3 ON INTERSTATE 95 (MR. TED FELDER):

Mr. Felder came before council and requested a letter of support to make application to the State Infrastructure Bank for funding to create a new Exit 3 on Interstate 95. Council approved sending a letter of support to the State Infrastructure Bank. (See attachment #1)

UPDATE ON THE ECONOMY AND LAND USE SECTIONS OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (MS. ALLISON CANTRELL, MEMBER, HAMPTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION):

Ms. Allison Cantrell, Member, Hampton County Planning Commission, along with Ms. Ginnie Kozak, Lowcountry Council of Governments, came before council to present the Economy and Land Use Sections of the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Cantrell made the presentation. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson to accept the report as information. Motion carried unanimously. (See attachment #2)

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)

NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK (MAY 3-9, 2009):

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the

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proclamation proclaiming May 3-9, 2009 as Nation County Government Week. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

ORDINANCE #2009-004, HAMPTON COUNTY 2009/2010 FISCAL BUDGET:
Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give second reading to Ordinance #2009-004, Hampton County 2009/2010 Fiscal Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):
Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #3)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):
COUNCIL MEMBER PARKER'S RESPONSE TO LEAVING THE COUNTY:
Council Member Parker stated that she has been approached by many regarding her leaving the county. She read the following letter dated April 20, 2009 submitted to council:

Dear Council and Administration:

Several people have asked if I am planning to move from Hampton County and vacate my council seat. I am NOT.

I plan to finish my term on council and keep my residence here in Hampton County throughout that time.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:
Information Regarding Installment Payments of Property Tax

Administrator Graham presented information regarding Installment Payments of Property Tax. Administration Graham explained to council that this was a prepayment program and not an installment program. Council's Administration and Finance Committee will meet with the Taxing Officials (Auditor, Tax Collector and Treasurer) at 5:00 p. m. on May 4, 2009 to discuss the matter.

Litter Report for March 2009

Administrator Graham presented the March 2009 Litter Report.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray stated that council discussed a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p. m.